

# Announcing a Special *Silent Auction* to benefit students at the *Flandreau Indian School*

## THE CAUSE

For 30+ years, **Charlestown United Methodist Church (CUMC)** has given financial support to the [Chaplaincy Program at the Flandreau Indian School](#) in Flandreau, South Dakota. This year, the church is sponsoring another Silent Auction to raise funds for the Program.

**The Flandreau Indian School (FIS)** is the nation's oldest off-reservation Bureau of Indians Affairs boarding school, serving Native American students in grades 9-12 from reservations in at least nine Mid-Western states and 35 different tribes. About 80% of these students are considered "at risk."

The odds for success are clearly against these at risk kids. They are from homes where they: "are rejected or neglected; don't have adequate parental supervision; are imperiled due to behaviors within their families; or, had behavioral problems too difficult for solution by family or local resources." In other words, this school provides an off-reservation education option for Native American youth who would be better off away from their reservation homes than in them.

**The Chaplaincy Program at FIS** has served the unique spiritual and social needs of this challenged student body for more than 45 years. But, this chaplaincy program is not supported by governmental funds. **It is run completely through donations and grants, mostly from church bodies and congregations. These kids could use your help!**

**Please support the Flandreau Indian School Chaplaincy Program by contributing items for our Silent Auction, helping publicize the Auction, bidding on items in the Auction, and encouraging others to do the same.**



**Charlestown United Methodist Church**

on Church Road (near Charlestown Road)  
in Historic Charlestown Village

## THE AUCTION

**Items will be displayed to the public at CUMC at the following times:**

September 28 12:00 - 1:00 PM

October 05 12:00 - 1:00 PM

October 12 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM with free refreshments

**A list of winning bidder numbers will be posted here and at the church after the close of bidding at 1:30 October 12.**

**Items may be picked-up and paid for:**

October 12 1:30 PM to 2:00 PM

October 19 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM\*

(\*After our UMW luncheon - all are invited, or by other arrangements)

## How to Bid:

Each item on display will have a "**Bid Sheet**" on which bidders write their "**Bidder Number**" and the amount of their bid. Before bidding the first time, each bidder fills out a short form with contact information and places the form in a sealed box. The form and its stub (which the bidder keeps) contain the bidder's number. **The bidder indicates his/her bidder number on each bid placed, but bidders are not identified by name to anyone, including the auction organizers, until after bidding is closed at 1:30 PM on October 12.** Bidders may bid as often as desired on the same or different items, as long as each bid exceeds the then current high bid. Some items may have a minimum opening bid and/or a minimum bid increment.

## How to Submit Items for the Auction:

Using a form provided by Auction organizers at the Church and also available at [www.charlestown.org/SilentAuction](http://www.charlestown.org/SilentAuction) (four per page), brief descriptions of Silent Auction items are due at the Church by Sunday, August 31. Unless they are perishable, items themselves must be delivered (or arrangements made for pick-up) before Sunday, September 21. Contributors of items may specify a "minimum bid" for specific items. CUMC is reaching out to local businesses for donated items/services.

## For More Info...

For more information on the Silent Auction or answers to your questions, please contact Pastor Eric Woodworth via [eric.h.woodworth@gmail.com](mailto:eric.h.woodworth@gmail.com) or (610-913-0420).